

their jurisdictional differences to promote the interests of the country first. If the Senate produced more legislation in this manner, perhaps the American public could suspend its cynicism about our overwhelming absorption with scoring political points.

The Shelby-Sarbanes amendment will authorize \$3.5 billion in grants for mass transit security, including capital improvements, research and development, and operations.

This amendment is an authorization but it sets a marker for the Congress to fund these grant programs in the subsequent appropriations cycles.

The amendment also restores funding for the Public Transportation Information Sharing and Analysis Center, which is the vehicle for mass transit systems all over the country to share and analyze intelligence about threats to their sector, and defenses against them.

The second amendment I want to address is Senator MCCAIN's rail security amendment, which I also cosponsored. In fact, when my friend from Arizona introduced this amendment as a bill in the 108th Congress, I cosponsored it then. It will make marked improvements in the security of our passenger rail systems with an authorization of \$1.2 billion. The amendment directs the Department of Homeland Security to complete and prioritize recommendations regarding vulnerability assessments for freight and passenger rail transportation systems. Notably, the amendment would benefit Amtrak and its thousands of daily riders in three direct ways.

The amendment also creates a pilot program to conduct random security screens of passengers and baggage at a specified number of Amtrak stations. It calls for certain fire and life-safety improvements and infrastructure upgrades to Amtrak tunnels on the Northeast Corridor. And it directs Amtrak to submit to the National Transportation Safety Board and the Secretary of Transportation a plan to address the needs of families of passengers involved in rail passenger accidents.

Combined, the authorizations contained within these two amendments are in line with the American Public Transportation Association's estimate that \$7.2 billion is needed to secure the country's rail and transit systems.

Over the last few years, we have seen the decentralization of al-Qaida and with it the growth of homegrown terrorist activities directed toward the open, densely populated, and vulnerable mass transit and rail systems. I am pleased the Senate has accepted these amendments which will help cities and States defend against these deadly threats.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DEMINT). Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE CHARACTER OF THE SENATE

Mr. KERRY. Madam President, an awful lot has been written and enough has been said about the comments made yesterday by House majority leader JOHN BOEHNER. I am not interested in asking Mr. BOEHNER for a clarification or retraction or even an apology. His statement was very clear and I believe equally despicable. And his words are, frankly, beyond redemption. They are, however, sadly, what we have seen much too much of in politics today in our country.

So this is an opportunity today for the Senate to be the Senate. We talk here about "my friend from across the aisle." We talk about the traditions of the Senate. We talk about civility. But in the last years, a lot of us have seen things happen here that never would have happened in the Senate of 15 or 20 years ago.

We have come a long way since the days when Bob Dole and George Mitchell refused to campaign against each other. I have seen colleagues say in the cloakroom that they thought it was wrong to see the courage of their friend, Max Cleland, attacked, but on the floor of the Senate there is silence.

I know there are good people here who still long for civility. I have heard it. I heard the junior Senator from Oregon say, just this summer: My soul cries out for something more dignified. My friend from Arizona, just this spring, said: The self-expression sometimes overwhelms our civility.

Well, this is one of those times. But I think it is more than that. I think it is an opportunity, in keeping with these pleas for civility, for some of our colleagues on the other side of the aisle to actually come to the floor and not just talk about civility but express the truth, to come here and condemn Mr. BOEHNER's remarks in no uncertain terms if they disagree with them. I think that is the real test of the kind of place we have become and the kind of politics we are willing to tolerate. It is a test of the character of the Senate. And I think every American would benefit from hearing where Republicans stand on Mr. BOEHNER's words expressed yesterday.

SENATOR BAUCUS'S 10,000TH VOTE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, may I have the attention of the Senate. On

rollcall vote No. 244, the distinguished Senator from Montana and the current ranking member of the Finance Committee, Senator MAX BAUCUS, cast his 10,000th vote in this Chamber.

Senator BAUCUS now joins a very historic and select club of U.S. Senators who can claim this distinction. Only 26 other Senators have achieved this milestone.

From his post on the Finance Committee, Senator BAUCUS has worked on a bipartisan basis on many issues important to Montanans, from tax policy to health care reform. Legislating is the art of compromise, and in his 28 years of service Senator BAUCUS has mastered it.

A recent example that comes to mind is the Medicare prescription drug bill, which I sponsored. Without Senator BAUCUS's hard work and support, 31 million seniors wouldn't have the drug benefits they now enjoy.

Back home in Montana, Senator BAUCUS is affectionately known for his "Work Days"—days he spends working a full day alongside Montanans at a local business.

Senator BAUCUS, I know I speak for all your fellow Senators, when I say congratulations on this achievement, but more importantly, thank you for your service to Montana, to your country, and importantly, to the United States Senate.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF GOLINHARRIS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate a Chicago business on its 50th anniversary.

The public relations firm GolinHarris began as a six-person operation in Chicago in 1956. Fifty years later, GolinHarris is one of the world's leading public relations firms, with a client list that reads like a Who's Who of Business. It employs more than 450 professionals in 29 offices across the globe—from Brazil to Belgrade, Stockholm to Singapore—but, I am proud to say, GolinHarris continues to call Chicago home.

One thing about GolinHarris has not changed over these 5 decades and that is the strength of its leadership. Under the guidance of Chairman Al Golin who has helped shape the firm from its beginning, GolinHarris has developed a reputation as an outstanding corporate citizen and an innovator in an intensely competitive and fast-changing field.

I would like to extend my congratulations to Al Golin and the employees of GolinHarris on this milestone 50th anniversary and wish them continued success in the years to come.

INDUCTION OF JOE DUMARS

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I would like to make remarks about an American who has made many proud and achieved an incredible milestone this past weekend.